



RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
**NEWS RELEASE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **DA'S OFFICE RECEIVES GRANTS FOR TWO PROGRAMS TO PROSECUTE DUI-RELATED CASES**

**RIVERSIDE** – The Riverside County Board of Supervisors recently approved state grants for the District Attorney's Office to continue funding two programs specifically tasked with aggressively prosecuting those people who decide to drive while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

In 2013 in Riverside County, 100 people were killed and 1,298 others injured in crashes caused by drivers under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, according to state statistics.

The DA's Office has received two grants from the California Office of Traffic Safety to help prevent impaired driving and to reduce the number of alcohol- and drug-impaired traffic fatalities and injuries.

A grant for \$490,280 funds the Drug Impaired Driver Vertical Prosecution Program was approved by the Board of Supervisors on Sept. 15, 2015. Through this program, the DA's Office will have three deputy district attorneys prosecuting misdemeanor drug-impaired driving cases across the county. Vertical prosecution means the same prosecutor or team handles the case from arrest through conviction and sentencing.

A second grant of \$396,723, approved by the Board on Sept. 22, 2015, is for the DUI with Death and Injury Vertical Prosecution Program which consists of one deputy district attorney and a senior DA investigator. This specialized team will investigate and prosecute all felony DUI with injury and DUI-related vehicular homicide cases in the Southwest region of the county.

Prosecution team members will work with the state's Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor Program to expand knowledge and resources in the office by obtaining and delivering specialized training, including training in the emerging problem of drug-impaired driving. Team members will share information with peers and law enforcement personnel throughout the county and across the state.

The grant period for both of these grants extends from Oct. 1, 2015, through Sept. 30, 2016. Funding for both programs comes from grants by the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Administration.

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